

## JOHN GEORGE BLACKLEY

(1) John George Blackley was born 5 July 1858 in Faresham, Kent, England. Came to Heber City, Utah from England in 1869. He was a carpenter and farmer. His parents were George Blackley and Elizabeth White Blackley. He had two brothers and one sister who also came to Utah with their parents. He married Eliza Ann McDonald 3 November 1882. Eliza Ann's parents were William McDonald and Sariah Shirts McDonald. Eliza Ann was born 4 July 1865 in Heber City, Utah. They had 9 children following:

John William Blackley, married Martha Jones.

George Alma Blackley, married Zella Davis.

Adolphus J. Blackley, married Janet Mitchell, later Effie Nelson Elliott.

## HEBER BIOGRAPHIES

Arthur Blackley, died one and a half years old.

Edna Irene Blackley, married Joseph W. Simmons.

Wallace Blackley, married Eva Hicks.

Jennie Sariah Blackley, married Stanley Anderson.

Zella Blackley, married Dewey Thomas, later John Ackerman.

Glen Blackley, married Blanch Cowley.

John George Blackley died 3 October 1917 and is buried in Heber City cemetery.

Eliza Ann McDonald Blackley married Christian Madsen who died September 18, 1937 and is buried in Heber City cemetery. Eliza Ann died 27 April 1948 and is buried in Heber City cemetery.

ELIZA ANN McDONALD  
BLACKLEY MADSEN

In 1842, in Belfast, Ireland, at the home of James and Sarah Ferguson McDonald, a Mormon elder was explaining the gospel. James and Sarah were one of the first of four families to accept the gospel and they started preparing to move to Utah.

They were the parents of seven children: Jane, Eliza, John, William, Mary, Robert, and Joseph S.

James, the father, earned a living in the flax dressing trade. His wages were small. He had three acres of land where they raised vegetables and fruits. A goat provided their milk.

Sarah was very ambitious and wanted to help get to Zion. A story is told of how she went shopping and bought a little pig. She carried it home under her arm. She raised the pig and sold it. With the money she started a small store, thus helping to raise funds to come to Utah. The sale of their home and land netted them \$200.00.

After arriving in America, they lived at

Nauvoo and Bonepart, Iowa, until the father and boys obtained three yoke of oxen, two wagons, two cows and a pony. In the spring of 1850 they began the long journey to Zion. James, the father, died of cholera and was buried, without a casket, on the banks of the Platte River.

The family settled in Springville, but moved to Heber City in 1862, all but Eliza who remained in Springville and Robert who went to California. The family lived in Wasatch County the remainder of their lives. Sarah was known by everyone and lovingly called Granny Mc.

You will remember the fourth child of the family was William. He was born Nov. 16, 1834, making him 16 when they came to Utah. The year he came across the plains, another family by the name of Peter Shirts came, but they settled in Cedar City. Margaret Cameron was his wife. She was one of the first women to join the Relief Society in Nauvoo. William McDonald married their daughter, Seriah, Dec. 10, 1853. They were the parents of 20 children. Shortly after they were married, William was called by Brigham Young to locate agriculture sections, first settling in Alpine and then they came to Heber City. They lived on the outskirts of town, on the road to Park City. Later William married Seriah's sister, Elizabeth Ann. Each had a home with the barn between them. William was a high priest and a ward teacher. He also worked on the Nauvoo Temple before leaving Nauvoo. He was county treasurer of Wasatch County, Scout of Echo Canyon Campaign, selectman of Wasatch County, and veteran of the Walker and Black Hawk Indian Wars.

The seventh child of William and Seriah was born July 4, 1865. Her name was Eliza Ann. This was my mother. They gave her the nickname of Lide. Having 20 children in the family I think all would be busy trying to keep house. They raised sheep, cut the wool, cleaned it and wove it into cloth, and made their clothes by hand.

At the age of 17, Eliza married John Blackley. They had nine children, six boys and three girls. All their married life they lived at 487 East 2nd North, Heber City. At the age of 52, Eliza was left a widow with four unmarried children. She was an exceptionally good cook. She cooked at the Arid Hospital, Provo, Utah, and also at some of the mines boarding houses near

Park City. At one time she run a small restaurant on Heber City's Main Street, doing her own cooking. She was famous for her lemon pies and sugar cookies. Nothing pleased her more than to make cookies and pies and take some to her neighbors or have someone come in to have some. She always worked very fast and when walking, few could keep up with her. I remember hearing her family tell that whenever Grandma wanted anything from town she always sent Lide, because she could go faster than anyone else.

Eliza lost a 1½-year-old baby with pneumonia. Then her husband died. Wallace, the sixth child, was in World War I and at the front. Mother picked up the daily paper and saw his name in the casualty list. She heard from the government in a few days saying he had been "gased," and was in the hospital. In World War II and also the Korean War the government has been very particular about releasing names of soldiers who have been killed before the next of kin is notified. For some reason, a mistake was made and Wallace's name was put on the death list. I know mother must have felt terrible before she heard from the government. William, the oldest son of mother's family, and Glen the youngest, both died very suddenly from heart attacks. In later years, mother married Charles Madsen from Idaho. He died after five years of their marriage. George, her son, was very ill with heart trouble, which grieved mother very much, but she passed away before he did.

Mother was a Relief Society teacher for years. Sister Devere Smith was one of her partners. Mother belonged to the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers and enjoyed going to their meetings very much.

Glen, the youngest son, went on a mission to the Southern States which pleased mother very much. She made a trip to Georgia while he was on his mission. Wallace her son was living there and she got to visit with both boys.

Mother was always very particular about the way she looked, always keeping herself neat and clean. She died at the age of 82, on April 27, 1948. She would have been 83 years had she lived until July 4th. She is buried in the Heber City cemetery.